



STAR SQUIRREL

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Grade: 5 **Subject:** all

Compass: South, SouthWest, North

What works?: Posting the learning target poster in each classroom.

Why it works?: Students look for the poster and know what they need to learn to do.

Tips: Print, laminate, and post in a visible area. Update learning targets as necessary.

Favorite treats: Big Top Red Licorice, Miniature Hershey's chocolate variety, Reese's Peanut Butter Cups.

Research Tip of the Month



Never fear! Super Teachers are here at CC! These ones just happened to dress for the occasion one day. ;)

NOW THAT WE HAVE AN IDEA WHAT FORMATIVE & SUMMATIVE MEAN, WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Assessment of learning and assessment for learning are both important in the classroom. We need **assessment of learning** (i.e. **summative assessments** in the form of tests, quizzes, etc.) to report student achievement to parents, administration, and even state and federal departments. We can use the results to determine what students have mastered and where gaps exist.

While our district assessments of learning (i.e. NDSA, MAP) can tell us where our program is as a whole, the benefit of summative district data will not be as helpful as **formative assessment** data, our **assessments for learning**. Formative assessment with descriptive feedback has been researched at all levels and shows significant gains in achievement, some 4-5 times greater effect than reducing class size...which can be an unattainable dream some years. Formative assessment with feedback is possible every year! The bonuses are all students achieve and the lowest achievers show the largest gains. ²

Resources:

1. Focus on Effectiveness. (2005). <http://www.netc.org/focus/strategies/iden.php>
2. Stiggins, R. Arter, J., Chappuis, J., Chappuis, S. (2006). Classroom Assessment for Student Learning.

Research-based strategy to try.

Comparing & Contrasting¹

- *A fundamental cognitive task
- *Learners see patterns & make connections
- *Have students identify characteristics and group ideas or objects.
- *Challenge students to link, connect, and integrate ideas
- *This strategy can boost achievement 31-46 %ile points.

WHOA!

% scoring below 18 on ACT in 2008 (and my lucky number)

33

formative assessment vs. reduced class size

4-5

times greater effect

number of states that already adopted core standards

38